

**Animal Shelter at Pitchess Detention Center**

The County of Los Angeles and the Board of Supervisors have devoted significant focus and attention to examining opportunities for programs that make positive impacts on inmates in our jails.

Programs across the nation, such as the Prison Pet Partnership in Washington Corrections Center and Paws in Prison in the Arkansas Department of Corrections suggest that exposure to and caring for animals by inmates has a very positive impact on the inmates as well as staff. It reduces violence in corrections institutions and supports the rehabilitation and re-entry of inmates through things such as: 1) reduced tension among inmates, 2) increased social interactions, and 3) development of valuable skills.

The County has a unique opportunity to combine these programmatic benefits to the inmates with the need to expand the capacity and care for small animals abandoned and left to the responsibility of the Department of Animal Care and Control who may otherwise languish and be euthanized. Such a program could be a cost-effective and progressive way to integrate the needed care of animals with positive benefits to our inmates.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors instruct the Chief Executive Officer to work with the Department of Animal Care and Control and the Sheriff to report back in 30 days on the feasibility of establishing an animal shelter for small animals on the grounds of Pitchess Detention Center.

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MOTION

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

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